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MEMORIAL

NOTICES AND ADDRESSES

ON THE

CHARACTER AND PUBLIC SERVICES

OF

SAMUEL BUELL WOOLWORTH, LL. D.

PUBLISHED UNDER THE DIRECTION OF A COMMITTEE OF THE REGENTS OF THE UNIVERSITY OF THE STATE OF NEW YORK.

ALBANY:
WEED, PARSONS & CO., PRINTERS.
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J. B. Woodworth.

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ALBANY N.Y.

In the Board of Regents,
July 15, 1880.

On motion of Regent Smith, the Chancellor was authorized to appoint a committee of five with power to publish the memorial notices of Dr. Woolworth in separate form, and the Chancellor appointed the Vice-Chancellor, Regent Upson, Dr. Edward North, the Secretary and the Assistant Secretary as such committee.

Gift.
L B Griswold
FEB 21 1902

Samuel Buell Woolworth.

Born in Bridgehampton, Suffolk County, L. I., December, 15th, 1800.

Graduated from Hamilton College in 1822.

Teacher in Monson Academy, Mass., 1822–24.

Principal of Onondaga Valley Academy, 1824–30.

Principal of Cortland Academy, in Homer, 1830–52.

Trustee of Hamilton College, 1836–80.

President of New York State Teachers' Association 1847–48.

Principal of State Normal School at Albany, 1852–6.

Received the Doctorate of Laws from Hamilton College, 1854.

Secretary of the Regents of the University of the State of New York, 1856–80.

Died in Brooklyn, Wednesday, June 30, 1880.

Buried in Homer, Saturday, July 3, 1880.

I.

DR. WOOLWORTH'S RESIGNATION.

At the Annual Meeting of the Board of Regents, held January 8, 1880, Vice-Chancellor Pierson presented a communication from the Secretary, tendering his resignation, on account of physical infirmity, which communication he read, as follows:

It is now more than twenty-four years since I entered the service of the Board as its Secretary and Treasurer.

I have been unremitting in the work committed to me to the full extent of my ability, and the Board has always given me full and cordial support and confidence. To-day I find among you but one person a member of the Board of Regents at the time of my election.

It gives me inexpressible pleasure to state that all our consultations and discussions have been harmonious, and our decisions have had entire concurrence.

The duties of Secretary and Treasurer are very important and demand constant care and attention.

For some months my health has been seriously impaired, and I find myself unable to discharge the duties of my office with satisfaction to myself, and I therefore remit to you the offices with which it has been your pleasure from time to time to invest me, and ask you to take such action as you may deem proper in the execution of the important trust committed to your care.

The Vice-Chancellor then offered the following resolutions, which he accompanied with appropriate remarks:

Resolved, That the resignation of Dr. Woolworth as Secretary and Treasurer of the Board be accepted and that his comments in reference thereto be entered in full in the minutes.

Resolved, That Dr. Woolworth be and he is hereby appointed Honorary Secretary of the Board.

Regent Fitch seconded the motion for the adoption of the resolutions.

Regent Clinton expressed his own feelings and sentiments in view of the resignation of so valuable and eminent an officer of this Board; as did also Regent Curtis, the Chancellor, Rev. Dr. Upson and Regent Leavenworth.

The motion on adopting the resolution to accept the resignation of Secretary Woolworth and to appoint him an Honorary Secretary of the Board, was unanimously adopted.

The Vice-Chancellor offered the following resolution, which was unanimously adopted:

Resolved, That a committee of three be appointed by the Chancellor to prepare and report to the Board at its meeting to-morrow, a suitable minute to be entered on the records of the Board, expressive of the sympathy of the Board for the illness of Dr. Woolworth that has made his resignation necessary, and of the high regard for the services he has rendered to the cause of education.

The Chancellor appointed the Vice-Chancellor and Regents Curtis and Clinton, as the committee under the resolution.

JANUARY 10, 1880.

The committee appointed last evening to report a suitable minute relative to the retirement of Secretary Woolworth, submitted the following, which was read and unanimously adopted:

In accepting the resignation of Dr. Woolworth, who has been the Secretary of this Board for nearly a quarter of a century, the Board of Regents desire to place upon their minutes this testimony of their sincere sympathy with him in the illness which has compelled him to retire from the active duties of his office; of their affectionate regard for him as a man; and of their profound appreciation not only of the labors that he has performed for this Board, but of his distinguished earlier services as an academical teacher, which designated him as eminently fitted for the position which he has filled so long and so worthily.

As there is no branch of public duty in the State at once more important and more unobtrusive than that which has devolved upon him, the Board reflect with pleasure that during the official term of Dr. Woodworth, and largely through his interest and intelligence and fidelity, the standard of academic education in the State has been signally advanced, and that no public service has been more efficiently and economically performed than that which has been officially entrusted to him.

The Board congratulate the State and themselves that they are yet to enjoy the advantage of his counsel and assistance, and very earnestly desire that his later years may be serene and happy with the well merited consciousness of a great work well done.

It is ordered that the Chancellor of the Board be requested to transmit a copy of this minute to Dr. Woolworth.

II.

DR. WOOLWORTH'S DEATH AND FUNERAL.

In the Board of Regents, *July* 2, 1880.

The Board met on the call of the Chancellor, to take suitable action with reference to the death of the Honorary Secretary, Samuel B. Woolworth, LL. D., which occurred on the 30th ult., at his son's residence in Brooklyn.

Rev. Dr. Upson submitted the following draft of a minute which he had prepared on the request of the Vice-Chancellor :

The Regents of the University receive, with unfeigned sorrow, the announcement of the death of their late Secretary, Samuel Buell Woolworth, LL. D.

The Board desires to record upon its minutes their high appreciation of his excellent character and most useful and honorable service.

A graduate of Hamilton College in 1822, receiving the degree of Doctor of Laws from the same institution in 1854, a member, and at the time of his death President of its Board of Trust, he was closely and honorably identified with one of the leading colleges of the State. For many years President of the Onondaga Academy, and subsequently, for a longer period, of the prosperous and influential academy at Homer, and afterwards Principal of the State Normal School in this city, Dr. Woolworth will be remembered as a teacher eminently successful, and honored, alike, by those whom he taught and by the community in which he lived.

As Secretary of this Board from 1855 to 1880, when he was appointed its Honorary Secretary, he rendered constant and most valuable service to public education.

Faithful in duty, with broad views of educational administration, suggestive, sagacious, energetic and public spirited, he greatly promoted the advancement of academic and collegiate education in this State. The members of this Board would affectionately cherish the memory of his useful and honored life, and would imitate his unostentatious and beneficent example.

Mr. Townsend moved the adoption of the minute, and after remarks by the Vice-Chancellor and Mr. Townsend, the same was unanimously adopted.

The following resolution was also adopted:

Resolved, That a committee, consisting of Vice-Chancellor Pierson, Regents Leavenworth, Warren and Upson, and Secretary Murray, be appointed to meet the remains at the depot in this city, and to attend the funeral at Homer, on Saturday, the 3d inst.

Funeral Services at Brooklyn.

The funeral services of the late Samuel Buell Woolworth, LL. D., were held at the residence of his son, Calvin C. Woolworth, Esq., 582 Washington Avenue, Brooklyn, on Thursday afternoon, July 1st, 1880. The services were conducted by Rev. Theodore L. Cuyler, D. D., who spoke as follows:

Before the remains of this venerated man of God are borne hence, it is a fitting tribute to his honored memory that the members of his own household and those gathered here should have a brief, simple service this afternoon.

I will read a few passages from that blessed book which was the guide of his life and the song in the house of his pilgrimage.

"Lord, thou hast been our dwelling-place in all generations.

"Before the mountains were brought forth, or ever thou hadst formed the earth and the world, even from everlasting to everlasting, thou art God."

"The days of our years are three score years and ten."

"So teach us to number our days, that we may apply our hearts unto wisdom."

"Mark the perfect man, and behold the upright; for the end of that man is peace."

"Thou shalt come to thy grave in a full age, liketh as a shock of corn cometh in in his season."

"Even to your old age I am he; and even to hoar hairs will I carry you. I have made and I will bear, even I will carry, and will deliver you."

"Then Abraham gave up the ghost, and died in a good old age, an old man, and full of years, and was gathered to his people."

"And Joseph said unto his brethren, 'I die.'"

"So Joseph died, being a hundred and ten years old, and they embalmed him, and he was put in a coffin in Egypt."

"And I heard a voice from heaven saying unto me, write, blessed are the dead which die in the Lord from henceforth; yea, saith the Spirit, that they may rest from their labors, and their works do follow them."

"Let me die the death of the righteous, and let my last end be like his."

"Therefore are they before the throne of God, and serve him day and night in his temple: and he that sitteth on the throne shall dwell among them."

They shall hunger no more, neither thirst any more, neither shall the sun light on them, nor any heat.

For the Lamb which is in the midst of the throne shall feed them, and shall lead them unto living fountains of waters; and God shall wipe away all tears from their eyes."

"I am the resurrection and the life: he that believeth in me, though he were dead, yet shall he live:

And whosoever liveth and believeth in me, shall never die."

These precious passages, and many others that I might select for you from God's word, seem to flock in like doves from the celestial clime, and hover round yonder slumbering form of this good and faithful servant of Almighty God. There are so many passages that we might gather, and like flowers scatter about him or about that new-made tomb into which this form shall soon be laid, "ashes to ashes, dust to dust." "The days of our years are three score years and ten," as I have read to you, "If by reason of strength they be four score years"—that is sometimes so; it was so with this eminent servant of God. The physical strength, the healthy, pure, cleanly life lengthened it to four score years. His life was measured by the century. He came in with its opening year, lived on through its great, stirring, historic events, and comes now very near to its close before God summons him to come up higher where years are never measured in the calendar of the inheritance everlasting, and fading not away for evermore.

This service is held on his native island. Born at the other end of it, of a good historic stock—historic in the church of Jesus Christ—he bore the name of that venerable servant of God, of whom I used to hear in my childhood, (and many of you probably also), the venerable Dr. Buell. There was good, godly blood in those veins. A child of prayer, and consecrated to the Lord at the beginning of life, he walked on like Bunyan's Pilgrim, steadily setting his face toward the celestial city; clambering with many steps

up the "Hill Difficulty," with many a "Mountain Delectable" of enjoyment, with many a glimpse of the gates by the eye of hope from the "Hill Clear." He dwelt for a while in the land of Beulah, and then like "Great-Heart" he passed quietly through the river of death, and has gone home to be with God. His life was a very active one, a *seedful* life, scattering seed in many, many hearts; bringing forth the fruits of hidden instruction in the years past, and in the years to come. He was an honored member of that honored guild of teachers—the only profession to which the Lord Jesus Christ belonged when on earth. A great teacher was our Master, and it is a great office to be a faithful, instructive, truth distributing teacher. He went out into that part of the State of New York, so familiar to many of us, half a century ago, and taught for a time in Onondaga county, but became most known and noted for his labors in that direction in the beautiful town of Homer—a town which, I am inclined to think, has done more for culture than any other town of its population in this entire Empire State. And there are some of us who from our boyhood have learned to think of Homer as a place deserving its classical name on account of its advantages and wholesome religious influences. Dr. Woolworth helped to make Homer what it was, not only by his eminence as a teacher, but by his steadfast sabbatical observance, his staunch spirit and temper—the reformer's spirit always in him—and his uncompromising godliness. He was a part of the salt that gave tone to its savor; one of the lights that made that city—like the city on the hill—one that could not be hid. The life of Dr. Woolworth was like a banyan tree, dropping its branches down into the earth and springing up with other new trunks. He multiplied himself in his well-taught pupils. Many of the prominent educationists of this State were his pupils, and others who have honored his instruction in the fine arts and in the ministry. To-day one of his pupils proclaims the name of Christ in the city of Paris. So the outspreading limbs of this old man in his advancing years took root again, and this banyan of Dr. Woolworth's influence is springing up with new shoots to put out new branches and blossoms and bear fruit long after this form shall have mouldered to dust in a Christian's grave. Later, after his successful and honored labors in Cortland county, he was called to a high position as the head of the Normal school; but we are most familiar with him as a member of the Board of Regents of the State University, an office which he held clear on to the close of his days. And so the shock of corn scattered its seed, grew and

ripened, and was finally ready to be—not cut down with any rude violent process, but just transplanted—"coming in in its season" it was transplanted to heaven. I count his an exceedingly useful, noble and honorable career. He belonged to a type of men of whom God send us more! He feared the Lord and kept his commandments; he labored with the old-fashioned intensity, industry, frugality and conscientious devotion; he lived *for* Christ, *in* Christ, *with* Christ, and when his work was done, then he went home to rest. When the last stroke was struck, he laid him down to sleep; when the battle was well fought out, God took him home as it were on his shield, and now he is asleep in Jesus; and children and children's children rise up and call him blessed.

In the years to come, men who were taught by him will be remembering his instructions, and all over this State of New York and over the western Commonwealth, as well as across the seas, the pupils of Dr. Woolworth will be graduating from time to time into more and more of honored usefulness, from the instructions which they received from him.

He was a teacher on earth. He is a learner now. He has gone up to yonder High School of heaven to sit at the feet of Jesus, to learn more in an hour than he could teach in a life-time. He is gathered in with the great company of teachers and prophets and apostles and missionaries and martyrs, and to meet, I doubt not, many of those whom he has taught, and to join in blessed fellowship with many faithful ministers to whom he had been as an Aaron or a Hur in supporting them in godly work. What wonderful knowledge he will be gaining there!

I have been greatly quickened within a few days in reading the last hours of that most remarkable servant of God, Dr. Bushnell, and as I followed him along as he drew nearer and nearer to the great light of heaven and found how his hungry soul was taking in the great preparatory truths to the full revelation, it seemed as if death never before had reached such transcendant sublimity. The great hungry loving hearts of God's people, how they will throw themselves into the bosom of the revelation that is waiting for them; how their manifold eye will catch the glorious unfolding; and what a blessed surprise it will be when heaven with all its brightness and blessedness and bliss shall roll in upon them its exceeding and eternal weight of glory!

These are a few thoughts that have gathered themselves round yonder sleeping form. Filial love will bear him away to his burial,

as it bore Abraham and Jacob and Joseph down to their resting place where they have slumbered together — father and children. So as you bear the good old man back to the scene of his honored labors, to lay him down among his fellow Christians of Homer, among his scholars there, among the godly men and women to whom he ministered in that beautiful, classic and Christian town, you will feel this — that you are just to lay him down in such a spot as his Master slept in, that he may awake and be forever with the Lord. Then the body shall be joined to the glorified spirit, and no longer unclothed, he shall be clothed upon and be like unto the Lord. A blessed life, a blessed death, a blessed home, a blessed heaven. Yea, write it again to-day, "Blessed are the dead which die in the Lord, they rest from their labors and their works do follow them."

The hymn "Jesus, lover of my soul," was then sung.

Prayer.

Oh Lord God of hosts, our father's God, the home of thy people in all generations, we thank Thee for thy gospel, for the fruits of the gospel in godly lives. We thank Thee for good men who are filled with the Holy Spirit, who are witnesses for Thee on earth, who are treasure-bearers to their fellow creatures, who are as salt preserving by a holy faith, who are as light in the darkness. We bless Thee for the gift of this man. We bless Thee that thou hast spared him so long and hast permitted him to gather such a large, full sheaf, and now that thou hast summoned him home when the day was over and the twilight gathered; and as these beloved ones bear him hence to his burial, they may feel that indeed the temper of the Holy Spirit was his, and that God was with him and is his God forevermore. We bless Thee for the early call of divine grace, for the indwelling of that grace in the heart, by which alone he was what he was. We thank Thee for the truths he gathered and the truths he scattered, for all the seed that his labors have sowed in many a heart, bringing forth thirty, fifty and a hundred fold. We bless Thee for Thy goodness to him in his earthly experience, that he trusted in the word of God and endured as seeing the Savior with the invisible eye; and when his journey was over we thank Thee that thou didst permit him to fall asleep among his kindred — that those who watched over him were those whom he had watched over in the years past, and that his eyes were closed by the hand of filial affection. Great God, help us to live, since life may be so lived, so noble, so fruitful, so glorious.

"Teach us to live, that we may dread
The grave as little as our bed;
Teach us to die, that so we may
Rise glorious at the judgment day.

Help us to live in all godliness and purity, in sincerity and honesty of heart, in conformity with thy word and submission to thy will. May every one of us have our dear friend's Savior to be our Savior, his God to be our God, our hope to be as his, an anchor sure and steadfast.

Bless this company that is gathered here to pay their tribute of respect to one who had grown old in the service of God and of his fellow men. His gray hairs were a crown of honor, "found in righteousness." Bless the absent ones of this family far from home, who cannot to-day minister their tribute of love and veneration with those who are assembled; and we pray that all this household in the coming generations, as they rise up to call him blessed, may take his bible to be their book, his Savior to be their Savior, and set their faces whither he walked, toward the inheritance of the saints in light. Go with them as they bear him hence to that scene of his honored and active labors to lay him down to rest beside those with whom he did commune at the Master's table, with whom he walked day after day; and as they lay him down to rest may they know, O blessed Savior, that thou art the resurrection and the life, and that thou wilt fashion his body like unto thy glorious body, that he may be forever with the Lord.

Grant Thy blessing upon us. Fill all our hearts with thy grace; direct us by thy heavenly counsel, and whether we all live like our honored friend to taste the fulness of four-score years, let us fall asleep as sweetly in our Savior's love.

And to him who hath loved us and given himself for us on the cross of Calvary, be thanks and praise; dominion and honor and glory forever. Amen.

SERVICES AT HOMER.

The services at Homer, N. Y., were held at the Congregational church in the afternoon of Saturday, July 3d.

The exercises were opened by the singing of "When our heads are bowed with woe."

Rev. William A. Robinson, the Pastor, read Psalm xci. and Romans viii, 14-39.

After the singing of the hymn "My God, my Father, while I stray," the Pastor spoke as follows:

It had been my expectation and that of others, that our dear brother Fessenden, a pastor here during a part of Dr. Woolworth's residence in this town, would be present to-day to take the charge of these services.

From his illness unable to be present, the duty devolves upon me, not to speak at length of him whose record is on high and whose work lives after him, but to speak simply of those things that are of interest to us as we gather here in this place where for many years of his early and vigorous manhood, Dr. Woolworth wrought a work fraught with blessing unto all this region. It is proper for me before introducing others who shall speak of his work in other and in some respects wider spheres of usefulness, to refer to that which it was given him to accomplish here. In some sense, I stand then as a representative of this community so deeply moved with sorrow by the death of one they have long known and honored. I speak as the pastor of this historic church of which Dr. Woolworth was for years a valued member and officer. I speak in behalf of the Sabbath school that has not lost from its records and the memory of its adult pupils, the name of him who was so long connected with it and for a time its Superintendent. I speak also in the name of this institution of learning, which, founded in 1819, in the year 1830 received Mr. Woolworth as its principal. Coming here then from Onondaga Valley to assume the responsibilities of this position, he so administered its affairs that this school came to be known far and wide as one of the best academies in the State, and to be blessed with remarkable prosperity for the twenty-two years during which he remained at its head. It might indeed seem more appropriate for one of these older men, for years associated with Dr. Woolworth in his life and labors here, or for some pupil of his in this school, whose life has been made broader and richer because of his influence, to bring the tribute of affection and praise to-day to his memory.

But it is given me to speak in the name of every such friend who would, out of a full heart, testify to his love for the noble man and the faithful teacher, whose earthly labors are ended, and who has entered upon his glorious reward.

Dr. Woolworth's love for this town and interest in the welfare of its institutions did not terminate with his removal to another place of labor. I well remember almost at the first of my personal relations with him, as we met at the Convocation of the Regents at

Albany, the expression of interest on his part in the prosperity of this village, this church, and this academy. Especially did he manifest his satisfaction at the change in the organization of the school then just consummated, and which in his opinion gave it a new lease of vigorous life.

He rejoiced in what had been accomplished, and seemed to be as much interested as any of those resident in the community, and as many of us know, his letters to those here with whom he was acquainted, and his conversation with them when he met them personally, was directed toward and had much to do with that change. And so this interest of his continued, and again and again in my official connection with this school have I received, not merely official communications from him, but have had added thereto a word of cheer and of interest in the good work the school was continuing to accomplish.

For these nine years and more, during which I have been a resident here, I have been interested to note what is the depth and the breadth of the work done so faithfully year after year, in quiet, consecrated, earnest endeavor to do the duty that just then was committed to him to do. In these homes, scattered up and down these valleys and upon these hills, I meet those who have been pupils of the academy under Dr. Woolworth, and I continually hear words of recognition of the services he has rendered to these lives; and I know that not only here, but elsewhere, these streams of influence for good, at the sources of which he stood directing their flow for the benefit of others, have been coursing abroad and carrying their blessings far and wide. So the lesson comes to us, to you and me, to-day, concerning this life that in its mortal experience has passed on earth and in its immortal glory has begun on high, and it is *the value of the success that is won*, when quietly and patiently the work that is given to one to do is wrought out in God's name year after year; and especially when such work is joined to the life of institutions that shall stand after we are dead and shall continue to be a blessing unto those that shall come after us. The work that was done here in connection with the sabbath school — the work that was done here in connection with these churches during that term of years — the work that was done in this academy was not an ephemeral work. The blessings thus generated perpetuated themselves, and in successive generations move on in increasing spread and increasing power as a means of good. In the renewed vigor of the institution here, which was so lovingly nourished and fostered by him who has

finished his earthly work, is the promise that for the years to come there shall be continued through its ministries the accomplishment of results that shall be for the good of men and for the glory of God.

As I have thought of this life, my knowledge of it as a personal knowledge, limited somewhat, it has seemed to me that in good measure our brother lived out the motto, which was the favorite motto, as you remember, of Dr. Guthrie. Surrounded by those who loved him, and he had those he loved wherever he was, for he had a heart to win friends, doing his work for those who appreciated him and knew him, always reaching along the lines of personal affection and influence as well as by the official relations which he bore to those that were under him ; doing this work throughout the years as they passed ; we may well say of him that his thought was, as Guthrie used to say,

> "I live for those who love me,
> "For those who know me true,
> "For the heaven that smiles above me,
> "And waits my coming too."

Remarks of Hon. E. W. Leavenworth.

It was my happiness to make the acquaintance of Dr. Woolworth more than fifty years since. When I came to Onondaga county in the fall of 1827, Dr. Woolworth was principal of the Onondaga Academy. He was teaching it then with a reputation he had already acquired and with a success which was known all over Central New York. Great numbers of the young men of Onondaga were attending his academy, and from that time down to the present there has been no year — probably no half of any year — that some of the men who were educated by him have not called my attention to the doctor's memory. Indeed he won the affections of all his pupils.

Having acquired a far more than ordinary distinction as a teacher there, he was called to take charge of the institution here at Homer, where his reputation became co-extensive with the entire State. Probably no educator in the State was better known by the different colleges of the State than Dr. Woolworth. His students came up so fully prepared that they were recognized as being among the finest who sought admission to the different institutions. When the State Normal School needed a head, by almost universal consent attention was directed to Dr. Woolworth, and again, in consequence of the

reputation he brought there from Onondaga and Homer, he was called upon at the death of Dr. Beck, in 1855 or 1856, to take the position of secretary of the Board of Regents. This office he held, as you all know, until his declining health compelled him to resign last January. I am sure that I speak but the sentiments of the whole body of the Board of Regents of the State and of those who have been members of it during the time of his connection with it, when I say that if the institutions of the State have been prosperous and have been greatly benefited by the action of the Regents during the last twenty-five years, it has been owing more to the wisdom and the experience and the careful and constant attention of Dr. Woolworth than to that of any other member of that body. He has been indefatigable in his labors. He has been consulted by the Regents in regard to all the great matters which have been brought before them. His large experience through a period of twenty-five years, had enabled him to give such advice and make such suggestion as were invaluable.

The Doctor's life was, I think, a remarkable one. Where can you find a man who has dedicated sixty years of his life to the education of the young? Is there an instance in the State, where a single individual has devoted that length of time to such an object, and who has during all that time made himself eminently useful? I know of no other instance. And there has been no period during the whole of that sixty years that he has not been active, vigilant and successful. It is no ordinary thing for a man to devote sixty years of his life to the education of the young. What could be more useful, what could be more honorable, what could be more noble than for an individual to dedicate his entire life to such a work? — to the work of preparing the young for usefulness and honor in this present life and in the life to come glory and immortality! That was the mission of Dr. Woolworth, to that he devoted his life, for that he thought and labored during all these years, and a great success crowned his efforts.

I had an intimate personal acquaintance with him and I need hardly say that he seemed to possess about every virtue that belongs to our nature. He was modest, he was true, he was affectionate, he was active, he was energetic, he was useful, and in every position in which he was placed he discharged each duty with faithfulness and zeal and in a manner eminently satisfactory to all those with whom he came in contact.

Remarks of Hon. Henry R. Pierson, Vice-Chancellor of the Board of Regents.

Eighty years of honest living, sixty years of public service, with not a blemish.

If I had words to express what I would like to say, I could hardly formulate them here. This is an unusual service for me. I am not accustomed to take part in such ceremonies. And yet there is something beautiful about it, something marvelously attractive to me. Here, in the afternoon of a summer day, surrounded by those who had known a man all his life, in whose very texture he has woven the elements that make men, we come to do honor to his memory. With this memory lingering about us, like the fragrance of crushed flowers — now that he is gone and his body but left here — because it never can be done again after to-day — who would not be willing to make an effort, at least, difficult as it may be, to be a witness for so good a man.

But I have no words to express to these people of Homer, and to these children and brother and friends of Dr. Woolworth, exactly what I feel; for, by reason of an official position, I feel as though I had a right, as a kind of co-partner, to consider myself as having something to do with this inheritance that he has left us. It is indeed a rich one. It is one for all time. It is not only to be found in the institution by the side of this church, from which have gone so many men all over the country, and who so well remember him, and their children after them, but in the very web and woof of your social and religious life here and elsewhere. It is a part and portion of the commonwealth of mankind, and it is a glorious part. But I do not mean to detain you by trying to say any thing now of the public life of Dr. Woolworth. As an officer of the Board of Regents, I am very glad to say that he was the head of us all. We tried to be faithful co-workers with him. I found him, when I went into the Board ten years ago, vigorous, sagacious, firm; ready and prompt in the discharge of duty; unyielding when he thought a thing was wrong, and persistent in the execution of what he thought was right; and so he lived his entire life. It certainly to me was a marvelous sort of thing, the fact in his history that occurred at the annual meeting of the Board in January last. The Doctor had been very fearful for some months, indeed for the past year, that by reason of his ill-health he would have to resign his position. I don't think he ever got over losing his late friend, the

Chancellor of the Board, Mr. Pruyn. He always seemed to miss him. They were constantly together. And he suddenly sent in his resignation. The Board were unwilling to relieve him entirely, and made him honorary secretary, Dr. Murray becoming the secretary; and at that time Mr. Leavenworth was there, George William Curtis was there, and others, and a great many members of the Board made remarks which I think that any man would feel were reward enough for an honest and faithful discharge of official duty. Indeed, it was as strong testimony as could be given by man; and I am sure that others reading it felt as we felt when we heard them, that that was a proud position for a man to attain to, if he could gain it as Dr. Woolworth had gained it, and as he got it then—an eloquent tribute to an honest life. The records of the Board of Regents contain a beautiful minute, which was presented yesterday at a meeting by Dr. Upson, who was appointed one of the committee to come here with us, and would have come, but for duties that he could not forego. I wish I had those minutes here, but they will be printed. But they are just like my effort, and the effort of every man who undertakes to speak of this departed one. It is simply a reach out to find words by which to better express what none of us can better express, but what we all feel, that Dr. Woolworth was an honest, Christian man, and lived up the full measure of his days in the faithful discharge of every known duty.

REMARKS OF REV. REGENT O. H. WARREN, D. D.

It would be impossible, as it is unnecessary, that I should attempt to add anything by way of eulogy to what has been said. My own personal acquaintance with Dr. Woolworth has been brief and has been in official relations; and yet that very brief acquaintance has given an opportunity for an impression to be made upon my mind concerning not merely his fidelity in office, not merely his trustworthiness as a citizen, not merely his devotion to the cause of education; but an impression also concerning his Christian character, his faith in Christ and of his sense of obligation to one to whom, in the end, he felt that he was accountable.

I could not think that such a character as adorned him in his old age could have been grafted upon a youth or early manhood of vice or dissipation. It was impossible for me to infer that that character which was so firm in its regard for right and truthfulness — that seemed to be so exalted in a consciousness of its own personal relationship to God — had been grafted upon a life of unbelief in

Christ, unbelief in his obligation to his maker, or unbelief in the great future that awaits us. The life of old age with him, as I witnessed it, impresses me as a life which was the outcome of Christian faith and of prayer. I had a few interviews with him — personal conversations concerning educational interests — and I remember a number of instances in which he referred to the importance of religious influence and religious agencies in connection with the great cause of education, and it was his belief, I doubt not — a belief of which I need scarcely remind this community — that everything has its highest reward in what comes, by virtue of it, to the mind, to the heart, and to that character which we can only arrive at through faith in God; and the richest reward that this man had in this life was in that grand and noble character to which such affectionate testimony has been borne to day.

But that reward was only the beginning, as I trust, of the rich reward which awaits him. He labored not for this life only, but for the future. His thought was of that character which led him to regard himself as not his own, but as "purchased with a price." And he lived "not unto himself;" his was not a selfish life; he lived unto Him who died for him and rose again; lived with a sense of his obligation to that God who manifested himself in Christ. He was constrained by the thought that the Divine Christ gave himself for the world and is now on the heavenly throne discerning his life, his thought, his character; and he trusted that that Christ would give him his ultimate, his eternal, his glorious reward.

Now, it may be that in merely official relations we did not see the brightest side of the man's character; but we could see the signs or the reflections of that character, and from his public life we could trace back in our thoughts the influences which made him what he was—to the bible, to the closet, to the throne of grace, to the house of prayer. And it is in these influences that we are to seek for that which will help to make us like him who has departed with a character enriched with the fruits of an honorable, useful, holy life. May the Divine spirit impress that truth upon the hearts of this community. Young people have received from him knowledge, but I trust they have received more than knowledge — an influence upon the heart which leads them to a right use of knowledge — a consecration of all to the service of God.

These services were concluded with prayer by Rev. Dr. Warren and the benediction by the Pastor.

III.

DR. WOOLWORTH AND THE CONVOCATION.

[University Convocation, July 1880.]

Professor Edward North, L. H. D., Chairman of the Committee on Necrology, read the following sketch of the life and character of the late Secretary of the Regents:

Samuel Buell Woolworth was born in Bridgehampton, Suffolk county, Long Island, December 15, 1800. His father, the Rev. Dr. Aaron Woolworth, was a graduate from Yale College in 1784, and for many years pastor of the Presbyterian church in Bridgehampton. His mother was a daughter of the Rev. Dr. Samuel Buell, a graduate from Yale College in 1741, who preceded the Rev. Dr. Lyman Beecher in the pastorate of the Presbyterian church at Easthampton, Long Island. Samuel B. Woolworth was fitted for college by his father, and in 1819 was admitted to the Sophomore class in Hamilton College. His three undergraduate years were wisely used. Fortunate in such instructors as President Henry Davis, Dr. Josiah Noyes and Prof. Theodore Strong, he was equally fortunate in classmates whose companionship brought daily delight and good inspiration. Four of these classmates, who still survive after a genial friendship of sixty-two years, were Judge William J. Bacon, of Utica, Rev. Hiram H. Kellogg, of Chicago, Ill., Rev. Peter Kimball, of Cleveland, O., Rev. Homer Wheaton, of Lithgow, Dutchess county, N. Y.

For two years after his graduation Mr. Woolworth was a teacher in the academy at Monson, Mass., where one of his pupils, now Dr. Henry Barnard, of Hartford, Conn., laid the foundation for a training that has helped him to make very large and very valuable contributions to the literature of education. In 1824, one year before the completion of the Erie canal, Mr. Woolworth accepted a call to the principalship of the academy at Onondaga Valley, near to the point where the city of Syracuse has since made its wonderful growth. For six years, Principal Woolworth's work was done with

such enthusiasm, skill and fidelity, that the Onondaga Academy gained a wide recognition among the best classical schools in the State. In 1830 he was called to a similar position in Homer, where the Cortland Academy had been established twelve years before. This important trust he held for twenty-two years. Here he practically demonstrated that the teacher's surest road to eminence and permanent prosperity is on a curriculum in which classical, scientific and mathematical studies are equally fostered. A thorough division of labor was brought about with the aid of teachers who devoted their whole time each to a single department, while his own time was reserved for advanced classes and general administration. The good effect of this arrangement was soon visible in the gradual increase of pupils from sixty to an average of three hundred. The academy advertised itself through its loyal pupils, and large classes of well-trained students were annually sent to the colleges of New York and New England. A new-born zeal for practical knowledge took possession of the thrifty farmers in Homer, and they came to theac ademy winter evenings to hear the Principal lecture on agricultural chemistry and kindred topics.

Here in the quietude of a village settled by New Englanders, and religiously loyal to the best New England traditions, Principal Woolworth prepared for college or for business, for city life or farm life, not overlooking the highest preparations for home life, not less than five thousand young men and young women, whose reverent gratitude to their faithful teacher, as lovingly expressed in all forms of word and deed, doubled the joys and mitigated the sorrows of his after life. Most emphatic were those expressions of gratitude and reverence in July, 1846, when the Alumni of Cortland Academy gathered from far and near to unite with the citizens of Homer in a social and commemorative festival.

Dr. Woolworth was a prominent member of the large convention of teachers who came together July 30th, 1845, in the Congregational church of Syracuse, and after a free interchange of views, organized the New York State Teachers' Association. He was elected President of this Association at its third annual meeting, held in Rochester, in 1847. At subsequent meetings he was often heard speaking words of wisdom and fraternal counsel. His enthusiasm, sagacity and unselfish nature were never more outspoken than when he was engaged with his fellow-teachers in maturing plans for the upbuilding of their chosen profession. By none is his death more deeply mourned than by the few survivors of that Syracuse

Convention of 1845, among whom are Superintendent J. W. Bulkley, of Brooklyn; Rev. Dr. Edward Cooper, now of Cincinnati, O.; Regent E. W. Leavenworth, and Hon. Richard Woolworth, of Syracuse, William Barnes, of Albany, and Commissioner W. W. Newman, of South Onondaga.

In 1852 Dr. Woolworth received an appointment to succeed Dr. George R. Perkins as Principal of the State Normal School at Albany. This was at that time the only Normal School in the State of New York. By many it was looked upon with doubt and disfavor as a useless innovation. The Normal School was a new thing on trial. Its speedy downfall was predicted by many politicians and many teachers who claimed that the old ways were better. Dr. Woolworth's work was now to be more difficult, more important and responsible than any he had yet undertaken. Withdrawn from the still air of delightful studies that had surrounded him in the village of Homer, he was now to be tried by new and severer tests. He was to be the observed of jealous and exacting observers. He was to be in an atmosphere of political and social excitements, at a centre of civil administration. A teacher of teachers, he was expected to multiply himself by inspiring normal students with his own high ideal of the teacher's work, and by helping them, while conquering the mastery of themselves, to master also the best methods of instruction and discipline.

In the land of peace he had run with the footmen without weariness—what would he now do in the swelling of Jordan? In this untried and perilous path of duty, he went forward firmly, yet modestly, with the same good sense and clearness of vision which had previously helped him to see the end from the beginning. His success was so complete and emphatic that on the death of Dr. T. Romeyn Beck, in 1856, his appointment as Secretary of the Regents of the University of the State of New York was called for by public sentiment, not only in Albany, but throughout the State. Results soon gave testimony to the wisdom of this appointment. Dr. Woolworth's thirty-four years in the teacher's work, with its varied forms of requirement and responsibility, had broadened his culture, toughened and sharpened his intellect, quickened his social magnetism, tested his organizing and executive gifts, and made him familiar with the needs and possibilities of our State system of education. He saw clearly that many points of advantage would be gained, and many evils cured, by bringing into sympathy and friendly

co-operation the widely-scattered teachers and officers who make annual reports to the Regents of the University.

It was a day of honest, well-earned joy in the life of Dr. Woolworth when "The University Convocation" was organized, seventeen years ago, in the chapel of the Albany Academy. It was on that 4th day of August, 1863, that the existence of "The University of the State of New York" was revealed to the world as no longer an inoperative legal fiction, but a wide-awake and beneficent reality. It was a day of victory, and the enemies conquered were prejudice, indifference, alienation, false conservatism. It was the birthday of an association that has probably no counterpart in the world; an association that has impressive dignity, without chilling formalism; all the vitality law can give, without local and selfish narrowness; an association that binds together in a fraternal guild the living educators of the State without the fatal incumbrance of dead books and debts that ought to be dead. Dr. Woolworth was not alone in this great unique movement. Could he speak to-day, his voice would ascribe equal honor to others. Certainly he was aided most heartily and effectively by Chancellor Pruyn and Vice-Chancellor Verplanck, by Regents Benedict, Clinton, Hale, Leavenworth and Perkins, by Presidents Fisher and Cochran, Professors Davies and Upson, Secretary Pratt, Principals Clarke, King, Flack and others.

The Regents' examination, by means of printed questions, is another important success with which Dr. Woolworth's name is honorably associated. It was organized in 1865. No precedent could be found for shaping this system, and mistakes at the outset were inevitable. But the system has passed safely through "the burning, fiery furnace" of criticism and opposition, both just and unjust. It has given a peculiar glory to the educational system of the state of New York. It is now quite generally accepted as a wholesome stimulus to thorough and well-directed teaching; as an effective method of unifying and uplifting the standard of attainment in our academies and high schools. The enlargement of this system of Regents' examination so that it shall include the higher studies is already an assured reality.

In 1836, while Principal of the Cortland Academy, Dr. Woolworth was elected to a seat with the trustees of Hamilton College. By a provision of the charter the oldest trustee acts as chairman at meetings of the board, with his name at the top of the roll. In the catalogue of 1836 Dr. Woolworth's name was printed at the bottom

of the roll, and whenever a vacancy was created by death or resignation, his name was moved to a higher position. In the catalogue of 1876, exactly forty years after his election, Dr. Woolworth's name appeared at the head of the roll. For four years thereafter he presided at the meetings of trustees. His duties in the board of trust were always discharged with exemplary promptness, courtesy and filial generosity. His opinions were received with the respect due to ripe knowledge of books and men and large experience in educational matters. He was habitually on the lookout for opportunities to serve the college. In 1874 his official signature was given, with that of Chancellor Pruyn, to an amendment of the charter of the college, which authorizes graduates to share in the administration by electing a trustee at each commencement for a term of four years.

After his resignation last January, Dr. Woolworth removed from Albany to the home of his son in Brooklyn, with the feeling that his earthly work was completed. He made a few cheerful visits, wrote a few pleasant letters, and waited patiently in the antechamber of the better life. The end came sooner than it was looked for, on Wednesday, June 30, 1880. Funeral services were held in Brooklyn under the direction of Rev. Dr. T. C. Cuyler, and in the Congregational church of Homer, under the direction of Rev. William A. Robinson, on Saturday afternoon, July 3d. To the people who gathered in large numbers from their peaceful village homes and hillside farms, it was a day that piously linked itself with cherished memories reaching back over a period of fifty years.

The church was fittingly embellished with flowers, in emblems of sorrow, faith and comfort. Words of prayer and sympathy were tenderly spoken and sung. Gray-haired fathers and mothers looked for the last time on the face of their dead teacher, and seemed to be again reciting rhythms that had gained new meaning as the reciters grew older and wiser:

> Quis desiderio sit pudor aut modus
> Tam cari capitis?

It was a touching sight not often seen — that bearing of the father's casket by his own sons,* in the presence of an aged brother and weeping grand children. It was a beautiful sight to see the rainbow that suddenly spanned the eastern hills, like a celestial mes-

* The sons here referred to were Hon. James M. Woolworth, LL. D., Omaha Neb.; Mr. Calvin C. Woolworth, Brooklyn; Samuel B. Woolworth, Brooklyn; Charles D. Woolworth, Chico, New Mexico.

senger, as the grave received its kindred clay. It was a summer's Saturday afternoon to the sorrowing villagers of Homer. To the aged sleeper on the hillside, now at rest beside his mother and the mother of his children, it was the morning of an eternal day.

It would not be easy to find in all biography an educator's career that has been more evenly and honorably upward, less free from blemish or reproach, more serenely and enviably complete than Dr. Woolworth's. Other educators have gained some special distinction that was briefly brilliant. Dr. Woolworth's course has been one of unpretending, practical usefulness for more than half a century. And the end is not yet. His life and character have deeply impressed themselves upon the educational policy of the State and nation. His name stands to-day, and will stand in the future, as a symbol of what is best in actual teaching and best in the oversight and direction of educational interests.

Remarks by Assistant Secretary Pratt.

In his social and domestic life, Dr. Woodworth was peculiarly genial and vivacious. His conversational gifts were abundant and contributed much to his success in teaching as well as to make him conspicuous in social circles. He was twice married,* and was most happy in his domestic relations, except as these were sundered by the loss, successively, of his first wife, his only and most attractive daughter, and four years since, his second partner, a most excellent lady. Four sons in active business life, and several grandchildren, reciprocated his warm affection and by their presence from time to time augmented the pleasures of his home life. He was fond of horticulture, spending much time in later life in his garden, cultivating choice small fruits with his own hand. He had also considerable mechanical skill, which was serviceable in teaching natural science as well as in the household. Of medium stature, his brain was large, his countenance animated and expressive, and his manners those of "a gentleman of the old school." A truthful steel engraving was published in *Barnard's Journal of Education* in 1865, and he sat, two years since, for a fine portrait by an artist of New York, for his son residing at Omaha.

Dr. Woolworth was a firm, devout and consistent believer in Christianity, and during his residence here in Albany was a member of the First Presbyterian church, of which the Rev. Dr. John N.

* First, to Sophia Mickles, August 18, 1825, who died November 9, 1838; second, to Betsey Brewster, December 16, 1839, who died September 25, 1876.

Campbell was the minister for a considerable period prior to his death in 1864. Dr. Woolworth entertained the highest regard for this eminent divine, who was also a most active and valuable member of the Board of Regents. During recent years, the late Judge William F. Allen, of the Court of Appeals, who was a member of the same church, conducted a large Bible class, of which Dr. Woolworth was a regular and greatly interested member. No man was more honest and upright in all business relations, and few men in public stations are more simple, frugal and unostentatious in their habits and modes of living than was the subject of this notice.

The writer's acquaintance with Dr. Woolworth began casually in 1850, at the annual commencement of Hamilton College, and was extended by occasional calls upon him at the Regents' office after he became Secretary, by his official visitations at the Fredonia Academy while the writer was its Principal, by the considerable correspondence and various reports incident to thirteen years' service in that institution, and by attendance upon the first meeting of the University Convocation in 1863, in the organization and proceedings of which both of us took part. In October of the next year (1864), on the recommendation of Dr. Woolworth, the present Assistant Secretary of the Regents was invited to accept a vacant two-fold position in the Regents' office and State Library, and which in January, 1866, was superseded by the then new office of the Assistant Secretaryship. During these sixteen years of varied and busy service and confidential intimacy with the late Chancellor Pruyn and Secretary Woolworth, the writer became thoroughly acquainted with both of these eminent men; and he counts it no small privilege as well as honor to have enjoyed their personal friendship and official confidence. The two were themselves so intimately associated that one can hardly characterize adequately the one apart from the other. In many respects they were dissimilar, and on some minor matters could perhaps only agree to disagree; and yet each entertained the highest respect for the other to life's ripe end, devoting themselves in truest unity to the promotion of the interests confided to their trust. In the transaction of official business, a more carefully exact and broadly capable man than Chancellor Pruyn could seldom be found. He would scarcely write a common-place letter without re-reading and probably altering it before affixing his signature. He had great facility in composing official papers after the purest models as to style. It was no small matter to draft letters and official papers which would pass muster with him; indeed, we have heard him

characterize "the ability to write a letter" as the typical "civil service" qualification for such clerical aid as he desired. He had the highest appreciation of full and exact records of official proceedings; or, to quote Hon. Hamilton Harris' forcible way of putting it, "Chancellor Pruyn was great on minutes." He was also methodical to a remarkable degree. His business office and desk were in "bandbox" order when he left them, though to have every paper duly filed or otherwise disposed of, cost him much midnight labor, and, it may be, shortened his valuable life; but "method was everything to him." His chirography was angular, somewhat careless, and often by reason of numerous erasures and interlineations almost illegible to one not familiar with his handwriting; yet one would rarely find a word, a letter or a figure wanting or incorrect in any product of his pen.

While Chancellor Pruyn was in politics a life-long Democrat, and in religious faith a devoted Churchman, he was most tolerant and liberal to men of all parties and creeds, admitting all alike to his hospitality and intimate friendship. He illustrated traits of character so opposite as seldom to be united in the same person. He was both aristocratic and democratic; a full-blooded Albanian of Holland descent, and at the same time thoroughly English in his tastes and habits of life.

Such are some of the traits of the late Chancellor Pruyn as seen from the standpoint of familiar personal and official intercourse, and as they impressed themselves, no doubt, upon the late Secretary during his quarter century of familiar association with his superior officer. The Secretary was, however, too positive in his own character and too far advanced in life to become an imitator or counterpart of one whose earlier training and pursuits had been quite unlike his own. The Chancellor was the model business man, publicist and host; Secretary Woolworth was the enthusiastic teacher, transferred to the higher and broader field of supervision, with special aptitudes for inspiring others both by precept and example with the educational *esprit de corps*. He had already passed the prime of his mature vigor when several great enterprises, which may be characterized as the "modern improvements" of the Board of Regents, were undertaken; notably the University Convocation, the examination systems and the conservation of the entire landmark system of the State. As a consequence of his gradually declining strength and advanced age, he was, as a matter of course, conservative in his views and moderate in his expectations; yet he devoted

himself most earnestly to such share of the greatly increased labor involved as his strength would allow, giving an almost *carte blanche* to his lieutenant for the organization and execution of the multiform plans and methods required alike within the office and throughout the whole system coextensive with the State. These enterprises far exceeded his anticipations in both their magnitude and favorable results, and thus appealed in the most forcible manner to his interest and ambition, and it was, therefore, with the greatest reluctance that he relaxed in any degree the constancy of his attention to official business. He so far yielded to the need of recreation and the solicitation of his friends as to consent to avail himself, some years ago, of the leave of absence tendered by the Board of Regents for a tour in Europe, and again to the Rocky Mountain region; but with these exceptions, he was rarely absent from his post above a few days, until early last year he was forced by infirmity to lay aside active duty and accept an honorary secretaryship, in which his counsel only should be sought or expected. Even then, his visits to the office were as frequent as possible, and though his home in Albany, in the course of providence, afforded the society of not a single relative, he could scarcely be induced to quit the familiar scenes in the midst of which his active official life had been spent, and to take up his final residence with his friends in Brooklyn, where his last months were passed and where his calm and peaceful death occurred.

Any notice of Dr. Woolworth would be incomplete which should omit special recognition of his services for twenty-five years as the secretary and treasurer of the executive committee of the State Normal school at Albany. Being thoroughly familiar, as its former principal, with the organization, work and needs of the school, he was peculiarly qualified to give wise and prudent counsel, as well as to administer its finances with faithful economy. As first at Homer he came to be esteemed with almost filial regard, so afterward he was the patriarch of the Normal School. He relished many a pleasantry arising in familiar intercourse with the pupils. One which he repeated with great zest was the result of his attempt to prove to a young lady his own comparative youthfulness by reading without glasses. "Second sight?" was the lady's laconic and laughing query in reply.

For some years past he took great interest in the duties of the New York and Pennsylvania Joint Boundary Commission, of which certain of the Regents were members, he himself being the secretary of the joint board. Since his death, the Pennsylvania branch

has entered a very complimentary record upon their minutes to the memory of one for whom they had come to entertain the highest respect.

On the occasion of the official visitation, for an entire day, of a certain academy, as already incidentally mentioned, Dr. Woolworth made a brief address. One thought, sententiously expressed, has lived more than twenty years in my memory, and I venture to reproduce it as eminently appropriate here to-day, that it may, perchance, be preserved another twenty years or more in the memory of others now present as a memento of the late honored and lamented secretary: "The model animal is the product of nature: the model man, of cultivation."

He lived to see the Board of Regents of the University which, in certain quarters, and at times, until a comparatively recent period, was wont to be spoken of as an effete organization worthy only to be abolished, take its place in the public estimation as an efficient and progressive official patron of higher education throughout the State and of honorable repute in other States and nations. As a successful teacher for thirty years of his early and meridian life, Dr. Woolworth won the love and esteem of a great multitude of pupils, many of whom he has seen advance to useful and honorable positions in society and the State, and who have, in times and ways almost numberless, seconded by their willing aid any measures which he has urged, in connection with his official position. It is rare that a great teacher has the golden opportunities of Dr. Woolworth's later life, and it is rarer still that one goes to his last resting place with such a golden harvest as he was permitted to garner, even up to the midsummer day of his eightieth year. Reluctant though he may have been to put off the armor he had worn so long and so well, it is grateful to us to know that he went, as was most fitting, calmly and peacefully to his rest, and that his works, varied and abundant, abide as his rich legacy to society and the State.

Dr. J. C. Gallup, of Houghton Seminary, at Clinton, said:

Mr. Chancellor: For more than twenty years my intercourse with Dr. Woolworth has been somewhat frequent, and on his part it has always been characterized by urbanity and politeness. So thoroughly familiar was he with all the machinery of our educational system as to render him invaluable as a counsellor in all matters pertaining to the duties of a teacher. Within the limits of our State, I doubt whether there was a man of any note in his locality

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as an instructor, with whose success and methods he was not acquainted. Nor was his knowledge limited by the boundaries of New York. The laws, institutions, successful educators and methods of other States seemed to be nearly as familiar to him as were those nearer home. But what rendered his knowledge especially valuable, was the fact that it was not the fruit of visionary theories and speculations, but the accumulation of long, practical and successful experience. He was a man also whose perceptive faculties seemed always on the alert, while his love for his chosen work rendered weariness in it almost impossible. And when we add to all this the fact that he was genial, generous and conscientious, we have a man pre-eminently fitted for the office that he filled so honorably and so long. What changes in text books and authors, among instructors and methods did he witness! What growth and expansion of institutions and knowledge; and yet he was able to keep abreast of the most advanced to the end; and I esteem myself fortunate in being allowed an opportunity to bear this testimony to his eminent worth as a Christian gentleman and indefatigable laborer in the cause of education.

DR. FLACK, of Claverack Academy and H. R. Institute:

Mr. Chancellor: I regret that the time will not permit me to speak but a moment of the many excellent qualities of the head and heart of the much honored Secretary Woolworth. His sound judgment and great patience with those who differed with him, made him a friend of all fair-minded men. It is a great privilege to know intimately and well a man of such unsullied honor, such sterling integrity, such purity of motive, and such nobility of character. It adds dignity to human character that Dr. Woolworth has lived. All men esteem their race more to have known him. His noble life has added dignity to human nature, and made all who know him think better of their race. I am proud of his friendship. I am a better man to have known him. I feel it an honor to claim kinship to such a man. Though dead, his very many manly virtues live as bright guiding stars to all educators, and all elevators of our race. I feel that we are not fully able to appreciate how great and good such an example is to mankind.

Further remarks, not here reported, were made by other members of the Convocation.